

The FCC needs to reject attempts by the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) to stifle competition through its petition 04-160. Satellite radio is a subscription service lawfully offered to consumers who can purchase it or not. Satellite radio operators have the right to add services such as traffic and weather reports in local markets in direct competition with AM and FM broadcasters who offer similar reports for free. Of course, calling those services "free" may be getting reckless with the truth since we are subjected to a seemingly endless parade of commercials from sponsors paying the broadcaster's freight. Satellite radio offers consumers a choice not available from AM or FM broadcasters. If these broadcasters are losing market share and advertising revenue then they need to adapt to the new technology, not ask you to make it illegal.

I am a subscriber to satellite radio and I can tell you that it is a wonderful service. Gone are the endless commercials and I can choose the kind of programming I want to listen to, not what the broadcast stations decide I should get.

Your job as guardian of the airwaves should not be expanded to include enacting protectionist rules limiting competition. You should focus on enforcing standards of decency in broadcast radio and TV programming. Frankly, you have been lax in this area based on what I have seen and heard. Shows like Howard Stern should not be broadcast except on a subscription service like satellite radio. The porn coming into my home from broadcast TV stations during family viewing hours needs to be stopped and some stations need to lose their broadcast license if they continue to ignore your warnings.

I hope you will clamp down on the broadcasters who routinely violate decency laws while ignoring frivolous complaints like 04-160 from the National Association of Broadcasters. Please keep satellite radio on the air providing a superior product to those willing to pay for the service.